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Filed: Herewith
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Title: MULTIMEDIA
INFORMATION
PLAYBACK APPARATUS
AND METHOD


§ Examiner: Unknown
§ Group/Art Unit: Unknown
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5664-00100

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Deborah R. Powell

Commissioner of Patents
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Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, please delete lines 1-3.

On page 1, line 6, before “The present invention” please insert --1. Field of the
Invention--.

On page 1, line 6, before “In a DVD-ROM,” please insert --2. Description of the Related
Art--.

On page 3, line 14, please delete "It is an object of the present invention" and substitute therefor --In an embodiment, an apparatus and a method configured--.

On page 3, line 20, after "played back", please insert --is provided--.

On page 3, starting at line 21, please delete "To achieve the above object, according to the present invention, there is provided" and substitute therefor --In an embodiment--.

On page 3, line 23, please delete "comprising" and substitute therefor --may include--.

On page 4, lines 8-9, please delete "of the present invention".

On page 4, lines 22-23, please delete "of the present invention".

On page 5, line 1, please delete "of the present invention".

On page 5, lines 3-4, please delete "of the present invention".

On page 5, line 7, please delete "of the present invention".

On page 5, line 19, please delete "of the present invention".

On page 5, lines 21-22, please delete "of the present invention".

On page 5, lines 24-25, please delete "of the present invention".

On page 6, line 6, after "of the fourth embodiment." please insert --While the invention is

susceptible to various modifications and alternative forms, specific embodiments thereof are shown by way of example in the drawings and will herein be described in detail. It should be understood, however, that the drawings and detailed description thereto are not intended to limit the invention to the particular form disclosed, but on the contrary, the intention is to cover all modifications, equivalents and alternatives falling within the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined by the appended claims.--.

On page 6, line 7, before "Description" please insert --Detailed--.

On page 6, lines 8-10, please delete "The present invention will be described below with reference to the accompanying drawings. (First Embodiment)".

On page 7, line 16, please delete "The present invention can" and substitute therefor --In an embodiment, the multimedia information playback apparatus may--.

On page 7, line 17, please delete "A case wherein the present invention is" and substitute therefor --An embodiment of the apparatus--.

On page 7, line 20, please delete "comprises" and substitute therefor --may include--.

On page 9, line 2, please delete "comprises" and substitute therefor --may include--.

On page 18, line 1, please delete "(Second Embodiment)".

On page 19, line 4, please delete "comprises" and substitute therefor --may include--.

On page 19, line 7, please delete "comprises" and substitute therefor --may include--.

On page 23, line 10, please delete “comprises” and substitute therefor --may include--.

On page 23, line 13, please delete “comprise” and substitute therefor --include--.

On page 23, lines 17-18, please delete “the present invention can” and substitute therefor --in an embodiment, the apparatus may--.

On page 23, lines 20-21, please delete “When the present invention” and substitute therefor --When an embodiment of the apparatus--.

On page 24, line 4, please delete “comprises” and substitute therefor --may include--.

On page 25, line 16, please delete “does not comprise” and substitute therefor --may not include--.

On page 26, line 13, please delete “(Third Embodiment)”.

On page 28, line 13, please delete “comprises” and substitute therefor --may include--.

On page 28, line 6, please delete “steam” and substitute therefor --stream--.

On page 32, line 17, please delete “a case wherein” and substitute therefor --an embodiment in which--.

On page 32, line 19, please delete “a case wherein” and substitute therefor --an embodiment in which--.

On page 33, line 10, please delete “a case wherein” and substitute therefor --an

embodiment in which--.

On page 33, line 13, please delete “a case wherein” and substitute therefor --an embodiment in which--.

On page 34, line 22, please delete “(Fourth Embodiment)”.

On page 36, line 4, please delete “is comprised of” and substitute therefor --may include--.

On page 40, lines 26-27, please delete “the present invention comprises” and substitute therefor --an embodiment of the apparatus may include--.

On page 41, line 20, after “be prevented.”, please insert --It will be appreciated to those skilled in the art having the benefit of this disclosure that this invention is believed to provide a multimedia information playback apparatus and method. Further modifications and alternative embodiments of various aspects of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art in view of this description. It is intended that the following claims be interpreted to embrace all such modifications and changes and, accordingly, the specification and drawings are to be regarded in an illustrative rather than a restrictive sense.--.

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

7. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the network [sever] server generates group management information for managing a plurality of users having similar personal information as one group[,] and generates₁ based on the group management information₁ the

control information for controlling playback of the multimedia information, and [said] wherein the playback means plays back the multimedia information [on the basis of] based on the generated control information.

17. (Amended) A method according to claim 13, wherein the network [server] server comprises the 13th step of generating group management information for managing a plurality of users having similar personal information as one group[,], and generating, based on the group management information, the control information for controlling playback of the multimedia information, and wherein the third step comprises the 14th step of playing back the multimedia information on the basis of the control information generated by execution of the 13th step.

Please add the following claims:

--21. A multimedia information playback apparatus, comprising:

a first input unit configured to receive multimedia information during use, wherein the multimedia information comprises video data and audio data distributed from a first distribution source;

a second input unit configured to receive control information during use, wherein the control information comprises information distributed from a second distribution source;
and

a playback unit configured to play back multimedia information received by the first input unit based on control information received by the second input unit during use.--

--22. A multimedia information playback method, comprising:

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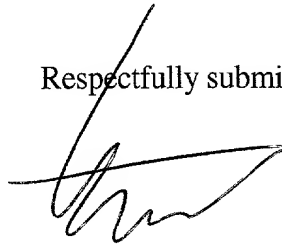
receiving multimedia information, wherein the multimedia information comprises video data and audio data distributed from a first distribution source;

receiving control information, wherein the control information is distributed from a second distribution source; and

playing back the received multimedia information based on the received control information.--

It is believed that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Conley, Rose & Tayon Deposit Account No. 501505/5664-00100/EBM.

Respectfully submitted,



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